

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

66011

DRAFTED BY:EUR/CE:JKORNBLUM:EM

APPROVED BY:EUR:RDVINE

S/S:SEBASTIAN

EUR/RPM:JMARESCA (SUBS)

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O 290040Z APR 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 096703

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FOLLOWING REPEAT BONN 07283 ACTION SECSTATE INFO USBERLIN
BERLIN LONDON PARIS DATED APR 27:

QTE: S E C R E T BONN 07283

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PGOV WB GW US UK FR NATO

SUBJECT: NATO MINISTERIAL: COMMUNIQUE PASSAGE ON
BERLIN AND GERMANY

REFS: (A) STATE 91853; (B) BONN 7127

BEGIN SUMMARY. THE BONN GROUP HAS REACHED AD REF
AGREEMENT TO A BERLIN PASSAGE FOR THE NATO COMMUNIQUE
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WHICH WOULD EXPRESS MINISTERIAL AGREEMENT WITH THE
PROPOSED FOUR-POWER SUMMIT DECLARATION ON BERLIN.
WHILE AGREEING TO THE TEXT, THE FRG REP QUESTIONS THE
PROPRIETY OF SUCH A PASSAGE, WHICH COULD NOT BE FED
INTO THE COMMUNIQUE DRAFTING EXERCISE UNTIL THE
ALLIANCE HAD BEEN MADE AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THERE
WAS TO BE A SUMMIT DECLARATION. ACTION

REQUESTED: GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. AT THE APRIL 26 BONN GROUP MEETING, THE FRG REP (HENZE) TABLED THE FOLLOWING DRAFT LANGUAGE ON BERLIN FOR THE NATO MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE:

"WITH REGARD TO BERLIN MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THAT IT IS OF IMPORTANCE FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF DETENTE IN EUROPE THAT THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FOUR POWERS RELATING TO ALL FOUR SECTORS OF BERLIN AND THE CORRESPONDING, RELATED QUADRIpartite AGREEMENTS, DECISIONS AND PRACTICES ARE FULLY RESPECTED."

2. HENZE EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT THE NATO COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE SHORTER THAN USUAL IN MAY AND THAT THE BERLIN PASSAGE SHOULD THUS BE PROPORTIONATELY BRIEF. ANSWERING SUGGESTIONS FROM ALLIED REPS THAT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE SIMPLY TO HAVE THE MINISTERS REFER TO THE BERLIN DECLARATION WHICH IS TO BE ISSUED AFTER THE QUADRIpartite SUMMIT ON MAY 7 (REF A), HENZE SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE TACTICALLY UNWISE TO ASK THE MINISTERS TO ENDORSE THE SUMMIT DECLARATION WITHOUT EXPRESSING ANY IDEAS OF THEIR OWN.

3. AT THE APRIL 27 BONN GROUP MEETING, BOTH US AND FRENCH REPS TABLED ALTERNATIVE DRAFTS WHICH WOULD ASSOCIATE THE MINISTERS WITH THE SUMMIT DECLARATION BUT ALSO EXTRACT FROM THAT DECLARATION THE KEY SENTENCE
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ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT AND DETENTE, SECURITY, AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE. THE UK REP (EYERS) AGREED THAT THE US AND FRENCH DRAFTS WERE PREFERABLE TO THE APPROACH SUGGESTED BY THE FRG.

4. HENZE, WHILE AGREEING WITH THE CONTENT, ELABORATED HIS POSITION FROM THE PREVIOUS DAY. THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAD BEEN INFORMED, HE SAID, THAT THE ENTIRE DRAFT OF THE MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE WAS TO BE CONCLUDED BEFORE THE MAY 7 SUMMIT MEETING. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO INFORM THE ALLIANCE EITHER THAT THEY WERE TO BE ASKED TO ENDORSE A SUMMIT DECLARATION CONCERNING WHICH THEY WERE UNINFORMED, OR TO BE TOLD THAT NO LANGUAGE ON BERLIN WOULD BE SUPPLIED UNTIL THE EVE OF THE MINISTERIAL.

5. ALL THREE ALLIED REPS WERE OF THE OPINION THAT THE PROBLEM WOULD BE MANAGEABLE. EVEN IF NATO HAD NOT BEEN

OFFICIALLY INFORMED THAT THERE WAS TO BE A QUADRIpartite SUMMIT ON BERLIN, THEY WERE AWARE OF IT FROM PRESS ACCOUNTS (REF B). IT WOULD SEEM UNDERSTANDABLE FOR THE NAC TO BE INFORMED THAT THE BERLIN PASSAGE FOR THE COMMUNIQUE COULD NOT BE AGREED UNTIL AFTER THE QUADRIpartite SUMMIT.

6. IN ADDITION, BOTH THE US REP AND THE FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) WERE OF THE OPINION THAT IT WOULD SEEM AWKWARD IF THE NATO MINISTERS WERE TO TAKE NO COGNIZANCE OF THE SUMMIT DECLARATION AND WERE, MOREOVER, TO ATTEMPT TO SINGLE OUT ONLY ONE ASPECT OF THE BERLIN PROBLEM FOR DISCUSSION. THIS COULD SUGGEST THAT THEY WERE NOT IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH ALL THAT HAD BEEN SAID IN THE DECLARATION.

7. THE BONN GROUP THEREFORE REACHED AD REF AGREEMENT
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ON THE FOLLOWING TEXT, ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT ITS USE WOULD DEPEND ON THE OPINION OF CAPITALS NOT ONLY AS TO CONTENT BUT ALSO AS TO THE HANDLING OF TACTICAL AND TIMING PROBLEMS:

"WITH REGARD TO GERMANY AND BERLIN, MINISTERS FULLY ASSOCIATED THEMSELVES WITH THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY THE HEADS OF STATE AND OF GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED KINGDOM, FRANCE, AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY IN THEIR STATEMENT OF MAY 9. THEY NOTED IN PARTICULAR THAT THE STRICT OBSERVANCE AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT OF 3 SEPTEMBER 1971 ARE ESSENTIAL TO THE STRENGTHENING OF DETENTE, THE MAINTENANCE OF SECURITY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION THROUGHOUT EUROPE."

8. COMMENT: THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THE DRAFT FOLLOWS THE WORDING OF THE NATO DECLARATION ON BERLIN OF DECEMBER 18, 1958. AS NOTED ABOVE, THE SECOND SENTENCE IS BASED ON A PASSAGE FROM THE DRAFT SUMMIT DECLARATION (REF A).

9. THE DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO SEEK THE VIEWS OF USNATO ON THE TACTICAL ASPECTS. WE ARE NOT REPEATING THIS MESSAGE TO USNATO BECAUSE REFTel (A) WAS NOT SENT THERE.

10. ACTION REQUESTED: DEPARTMENT'S VIEWS ON THE TEXT IN PARA 7 ABOVE AND ON PROCEDURES FOR PROVIDING THE

TEXT TO THE REST OF THE ALLIANCE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENT DRAFT, BERLIN QUADRIPARTITE MATTERS, SUMMIT MEETINGS, RESOLUTIONS, COMMUNIQUE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE096703
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EUR/CE:JKORNBLUM:EM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770149-0532
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977044/aaaaacqd.tel
Line Count: 172
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 019a2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS, STADIS
Reference: 77 STATE 91853, 77 BONN 7127
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2753744
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NATO MINISTERIAL: COMMUNIQUE PASSAGE ON BERLIN AND GERMANY
TAGS: PFOR, PGOV, WB, GE, US, UK, FR, NATO
To: NATO BRUSSELS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/019a2aa2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009